

## Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NEA-07 ABF-01 PER-01 FSI-01 OPR-01 SY-02

A-01 SP-02 INR-05 MMO-01 OC-01 CCO-00 SSO-00 INRE-00

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DRAFTED BY M:FNSPOTTS:LK

APPROVED BY M:LSEAGLEBURGER

NEA/EGY: MR. MATTHEWS

NEA/ARN: MR. DAY

NEA/EX: MR. JONES

A/BF: MR. WILLIAMSON

DG/PER: MR. APPLING

M/FSI: MR. SOLLENBERGER

S/S - MR. BORG

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O P 211557Z OCT 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT PRIORITY

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LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OGEN

SUBJECT: FSI ARABIC LANGUAGE FIELD SCHOOL

FOR AMBASSADOR EILTS

BEIRUT FOR AMBASSADOR GODLEY

REFERENCE: A) CAIRO 9519; B) BEIRUT 11936

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1. IN VIEW OF INSECURE CONDITIONS IN LEBANON, THE DEPART-

MENT BELIEVES IT WOULD BE WISE TO MOVE THE FSI ARABIC LANGUAGE FIELD SCHOOL OUT OF LEBANON AS SOON AS POSSIBLE WITH MINIMUM DISRUPTION TO TRAINING.

2. FOLLOWING A REVIEW OF THE MATTER, THE DEPARTMENT HAS CONCLUDED THAT OF THE POSSIBLE ALTERNATIVE PERMANENT SITES FOR THE FSI SCHOOL, CAIRO IS THE MOST DESIRABLE. WE ARE THEREFORE CURRENTLY CONSIDERING A PERMANENT MOVE TO CAIRO AND A POSSIBLE TEMPORARY MOVE ELSEWHERE EARLY NEXT MONTH UNTIL FACILITIES IN CAIRO ARE READY.

3. THE DEPARTMENT THEREFORE REQUESTS YOU TO DISCUSS WITH EGYPTIAN GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS THE ACCEPTABILITY OF THE FSI SCHOOL IN CAIRO.

4. IF THE EGYPTIAN GOVERNMENT HAS NO OBJECTION TO THE SCHOOL, WE FURTHER REQUEST YOU TO DISCUSS WITH OFFICIALS OF AMERICAN UNIVERSITY IN CAIRO THE FEASIBILITY OF LINKING THE FSI SCHOOL WITH THE UNIVERSITY'S ARABIC TRAINING PROGRAM. IN YOUR DISCUSSIONS WITH THE UNIVERSITY, YOU SHOULD BE GUIDED BY THE FOLLOWING CONSIDERATIONS.

5. SEVERAL TRAINING FORMATS ARE POSSIBLE: (A) A SELECTION OF COURSES FROM THE STANDARD OFFERINGS OF AUC; (B) A SPECIALLY-DESIGNED PROGRAM OF INSTRUCTION NEGOTIATED WITH AUC AND CONDUCTED BY ITS STAFF; (C) AN FSI-DESIGNED PROGRAM OF CLASSICAL AND FORMAL SPOKEN ARABIC, INCORPORATING ELEMENTS OF EGYPTIAN COLLOQUIAL AND CONDUCTED BY FSI ON AUC PREMISES.

6. FSI FAVORS AN ARRANGEMENT WHERE IT CAN SHAPE THE LANGUAGE PROGRAM TO THE SPECIAL NEEDS OF FOREIGN SERVICE STUDENTS AND BELIEVES IT IS IN THE INTEREST OF THE SERVICE TO RETAIN AS MUCH OF THE CHARACTER AND QUALITY OF THE PRESENT PROGRAM AS IS CONSISTENT WITH A NEW LOCATION. WE WOULD THEREFORE BE INCLINED TO FAVOR FORMAT (C) BUT WILL ACCEPT ANY FEASIBLE ARRANGEMENT.

7. FOR YOUR INFORMATION IN DISCUSSIONS WITH EGYPTIAN GOVERNMENT AND UNIVERSITY OFFICIALS, THE PRESENT ENROLLMENT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AT FSI BEIRUT IS 25 STUDENTS, OF WHICH 9 ARE SINGLE AND 16 ARE MARRIED WITH 38 DEPENDENTS, FOR A TOTAL OF 63 PERSONNEL. (THIS FIGURE HAS BEEN RECONFIRMED BY FSI.) THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS MAY INCREASE BY SIX IN MID-MARCH 1976. IF THE FOUR FSL INSTRUCTORS WERE TO BE INCLUDED IN A MOVE, APPROXIMATELY 21 ADDITIONAL PEOPLE WILL BE INVOLVED.

8. THE DEPARTMENT WILL ALSO EVENTUALLY NEED TO HAVE INFORMATION ON THE FOLLOWING DETAILS: (A) THE RENTAL COST OF AUC FACILITIES; (B) THE COST OF TUITION AND OTHER FEES IF AUC FACULTY AND STAFF ARE TO BE USED; (C) WHAT HOUSING ACCOMMODATIONS WILL BE AVAILABLE; WHEN AVAILABLE; WITH FULL OR LIMITED SHIPMENT OF HOUSEHOLD EFFECTS; (D) SCHOOL FACILITIES FOR APPROXIMATELY 10 DEPENDENT CHILDREN; (E) THE POSSIBILITY OF TRANSFERRING ONE OR ALL OF OUR LANGUAGE INSTRUCTORS FROM BEIRUT, IF NECESSARY, ON A TEMPORARY BASIS (TERMINATION OF CONTRACTS WOULD COST ABOUT \$100,000). INGERSOLL

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 21 OCT 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** CunninFX  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Reference:** 75 CAIRO 9519, 75 BEIRUT 11936  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** CunninFX  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 30 JUL 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <30 JUL 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <08 DEC 2003 by CunninFX>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
06 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** FSI ARABIC LANGUAGE FIELD SCHOOL FOR AMBASSADOR EILTS  
**TAGS:** OGEN  
**To:** CAIRO  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006